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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Thursday - 15 May 1975

[REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED] Received a call from George Gilbert, OMB, regarding their request of May 14th for our comments on proposed May 16th testimony of Leigh S. Ratiner regarding the recent Geneva Session of the Law of the Sea Conference. I called [REDACTED] OGCR, and in his absence spoke to his assistant, [REDACTED] I summarized the testimony for [REDACTED] and he believed it to be accurate. I then informed George Gilbert that the Agency had no problems with the proposed testimony.

2. [REDACTED] Ralph Preston, Defense Subcommittee, House Appropriations Committee staff, returned Mr. Cary's call and confirmed that the briefing for the Subcommittee at 1:30 p.m. on the Mayaguez incident was still scheduled for this afternoon and the events of last night have not closed out their interest on the subject.

3. [REDACTED] Accompanied [REDACTED], OCI, to a briefing of Representative Donald Riegle (D., Mich.) on Egypt, Israel and Jordan in connection with his trip there 22 through 29 May. Carl Blake, Administrative Assistant, was in attendance. The briefing went very well and Mr. Riegle was truly appreciative. We will provide several items for his reading, including a copy of the Middle East Atlas and the column by Ray Vicker on "Sadat's Diplomatic Offensive."

4. [REDACTED] Accompanied [REDACTED] to an executive session briefing of the Defense Subcommittee, House Appropriations Committee, on the Mayaguez incident. See Memorandum for the Record.

5. [REDACTED] Called Julie Pineau, Secretary to Representative Paul McCloskey (R., Calif.) and told her that if his schedule permits, we probably could squeeze in a briefing on the Soviet Merchant fleet this afternoon but otherwise it would have to go over to early next week. She said his schedule was tied up this afternoon but would check and let us know.

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6. [] Accompanied [] OCI, to a briefing of Jerome Levinson, Counsel, Subcommittee on Multinational Corporations, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, with Geoffrey Shields and another staff member in attendance. Their principal concern was over the practice of agent commissions being charged in Arab countries against purchases from U.S. corporations resulting in a U.S. tax deduction which is actually not supported by substantial service rendered and which enriches the favored few in those countries through a system of kick backs.

[] said that they had information that CIA had prepared a report on "corruption in Iran." [] explained the agent role as evolution of the tribal system in the Middle East and the desire of the countries to protect themselves in dealing with foreigners. In response to a query, [] indicated that the operation of the system is of common knowledge throughout Saudi Arabia. See [] Memorandum for the Record for details and one follow-up item.

Shortly after this session, I ran into Levinson in Senator Dick Clark's (D., Iowa) office, who serves on the Multinational Corporation Subcommittee.

7. [] Ray C. Hillam, head of the Political Science Department of Brigham Young University, called and we discussed arrangements for tomorrow's briefing by [] OTR, of some 55 University students. I reviewed the groundrules with [] and he had no problems with them and provided me with several points that he thought would be of greatest interest to them.

[] This particular group is generally juniors, seniors and graduate students interning with various Federal agencies and the Congress.

8. [] Paul Goulding, Administrative Assistant to Senator Claiborne Pell (D., R.I.), called on behalf of a constituent, [] a student at the University of Rhode Island. He speaks fluent Chinese and is interested in a position with the Agency. I told Goulding we would be glad to have our recruiter in the area contact [] Office of Personnel, was provided the necessary information.

9. [] Called Julie Marshall, in the office of Senator Dick Clark (D., Iowa) and confirmed Thursday, 22 May at 8:00 a.m. for the Senator to come out and have breakfast with the Director.

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